

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KHARTO 03724 141045Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-09
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 NRC-05 /143 W
-----086837 141718Z /46

R 140825Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8149
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KHARTOUM 3724

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, SU
SUBJ: PETROLEUM EXPLORATION ACTIVITY

REFS: (A) KHARTOUM 2752, (B) KHARTOUM 2230

1. ECONOFF MET WITH LOCAL CHEVRON REP PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE
FOR VACATION AUGUST 13 TO REVIEW THE STATUS OF EXPLORATION
EFFORTS. HIS REPORT SUGGESTS THAT PROSPECTS FOR MAJOR OIL
FIND IN THE SUDAN REMAIN UNCERTAIN.

2. DRILLING HAS PAST THE 10,000 FOOT LEVEL ON WELL THREE
(MAY 25), WITH NO OIL SHOWS AS YET. SECOND WELL CONTAINED
OIL SHOWS AT A DEPTH OF LESS THAN 10,000 FEET. CHEVRON WILL
CONTINUE DRILLING FOR ANOTHER THREE WEEKS (14,000 FEET)
BEFORE EVALUATING THE WELL AND THE POTENTIAL OF THE AREA.

3. SECOND RIG IS NOW IN PLACE AT FOURTH SITE (BONG) AND
DRILLING WILL START IN TWO WEEKS. BONG IS LOCATED FAIRLY
CLOSE TO UNITY WELL WHICH YIELDED MOST PROMISING RESULTS
THUS FAR. DRILLING WILL BE COMPLETED BY YEAREND.

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4. FOLLOWING COMPETITION OF DRILLING ON FOURTH WELL,
CHEVRON WILL EVALUATE ALL RESULTS AND CONSIDER A PROGRAM
FOR 1979. DUE TO LENGTHY LEAD TIME FOR SHIPMENT OF ADDITIONAL
RIG AND RELATED EQUIPMENT, DECISION HAS IMPLICITLY BEEN TAKEN
NOT TO EXPAND OPERATION BEYOND TWO RIGS. THIS WILL LIMIT
CHEVRON TO ABOUT 4-6 DRILLINGS NEXT YEAR, IF A DECISION

IS TAKEN TO CONTINUE DRILLING OPERATIONS. AT THIS POINT
SUCH AS DECISION HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE.
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Message Attributes

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